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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONIn the Cross-Reference to Related Applications:

Please replace the existing Related Applications section in its entirety, with the following paragraph.

This application claims the benefit of the U.S. Provisional application Serial No. 60/263,438 filed January 23, 2001, and is related to the U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/912,195 entitled "ADAPTER UNIT FOR A PERSONAL DIGITAL ASSISTANT HAVING AUTOMATICALLY CONFIGURABLE APPLICATION BUTTONS", which is filed on the same day as the present application.

In the Brief Description of the Drawings:

Please replace the existing Brief Description of the Drawings in its entirety, with the following Description.

Fig. 1a is a side view of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention;

Fig. 1b is a top perspective view of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention;

Fig. 1c is a back view of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention;

Fig. 1d is a bottom view of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention;

[Fig.] Fig. 1e is a front view of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention;

Fig. 1f is another side view of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention;

Fig. 1g is a bottom perspective view of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention;

Fig. 2a is a side view of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention illustrating release of the PDA retaining mechanism;

Fig. 2b is a PDA of the present invention;

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Fig. 2c is an illustration of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention connected to a PDA;

Fig. 3 is a map indicating the relative orientation of the circuits described in Figs. 3a-3f that comprise an electrical schematic of the adapter of the present invention [[an electrical schematic of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention incorporating a scanner therein]];

Fig. 3a shows a portion of an interface connector JH1 and pin-outs thereof for the adapter interface board;

Fig. 3b shows the remaining portion of the interface connector JH1 and pin-outs thereof for the adapter interface board;

Fig. 3c shows an EEPROM with memory utilized in the adapter interface board;

Fig. 3d shows inverter circuits used for the INT and RESET lines of the adapter interface board;

Fig. 3e shows a scanner controller that controls the scanner of the adapter interface board;

Fig. 3f shows power-down switching transistor and interface connector for the adapter interface board;

Fig. 4a[[A]] is a drawing of a primary side view of a circuit board of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention;

Fig. 4b[[B]] is a drawing of a secondary side view of a circuit board of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention;

Fig. 5 illustrates an adapter and a hand strap according to the invention;

Fig. 6 shows a compartment for a rechargeable battery located inside the adapter;

Fig. 7 shows an adapter with a handle grip;

Figs. [[Fig.]] 8a and 8b show a bottom perspective view of another embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 9 shows an exploded perspective view of the embodiment of the present invention shown in Figs. 8a and 8b;

Fig. 10 shows a top view of the embodiment of the present invention shown in Figs. 8a and 8b;

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Fig. 11 shows a bottom view of the embodiment of the present invention shown in Figs. 8a and 8b;

Fig. 12 shows a side view of the embodiment of the present invention shown in Figs. 8a and 8b;

Fig. 13 is a view taken along line A-A of Fig. 12;

Fig. 14 shows a flowchart representing a configuration routine for a preferred embodiment of the present invention wherein an adapter is attached to the PDA;

Fig. [[Figure]] 15 shows a flowchart representing a configuration routine for another preferred embodiment of the present invention wherein an adapter is attached to the PDA;

Fig. [[Figure]] 16 shows a flowchart representing a configuration routine for a preferred embodiment wherein an adapter is removed from the PDA; and

Fig. [[Figure]] 17 shows a flowchart representing a memory backup system for a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

**In the Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments:**

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, beginning at line 7, and ending on page 9 at line 10, with the following:

Fig. 1a represents a side view of a preferred embodiment of the adapter 100 of the present invention. Fig. 1b shows the sled adapter from a top perspective view. Fig. 1g is a bottom perspective view of an embodiment of the adapter of the present invention. As shown in [[Figs. 1a]]Figs. 1a and 1b, the sled-type adapter includes a cover 104 and a carrier 106. The carrier 106 includes a bottom wall 108 and two sidewalls 110 extending from bottom wall 108. An interface circuit board and a scanner, a radio, RFID tag reader, global positioning system, telephone, and/or some other module, is housed between the cover 104 and the bottom wall 108 of the adapter. The adapter of Fig. 1a includes an integrated radio with a hidden antenna and an interface board that allows connection to the PDA. Fig. 1e is a front view of the adapter. Fig. 1e shows an adapter having an integrated scanner located behind the scanning window 120. Sidewalls 110 of carrier 106

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are curved in such a way that they surround the PDA on both sides and protect the PDA from side-to-side movement and side impact. Sidewalls 110 prevent the adapter from being pulled off the PDA. Fig. 1c is a back view of the adapter of the present invention. It shows the edges of curved sidewalls 110 and the adapter connector 124 extending from the circuit board. A wall portion 106 of the adapter overlaps sidewalls 110, thus creating a seam overlap between the different portions of the adapter. The overlap helps the user to more easily hold the adapter/PDA combination device. Fig. 1d is a view of the adapter from the bottom, exposing the bottom wall 108 of the carrier from underneath. It shows four fasteners 109 that attach carrier 106 to cover 104, enclosing the electronics between carrier [[106]]107 and cover 104. Carrier 106 can be attached to the cover 104 and the electronics by snap-in features, screws or glue. It is preferable to make the adapter as thin and as small as possible in order to make it low profile and enhance its ergonomics. When, as in the presently illustrated case, the sidewalls are designed to protect the sides of the PDA, the height of the sidewalls is dictated by the height of the PDA to which the adapter attaches. In other designs the sidewalls may only partially cover the sides of the PDA.